

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print driver executable on a user's personal computer responsive to a selection of a print option from any application program, the print driver comprising:

computer-executable code configured to receive output from an application program; and computer-executable code configured to generate print output from the application program output, the print output conforming to a standardized markup language.

2. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the standardized markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

3. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the application program output is in the form of Graphic Device Interface (GDI) commands.

4. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the standardized markup language permits a hierarchy of elements, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

computer-executable code configured to track a state change associated with a hierarchical level defined in the application program output and determine when to include the state change in the print output.

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5. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

5 computer-executable code configured to cache at least one path element in the application program output and generate a corresponding path element in the print output when a paint path element is encountered in the application program output.

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6. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

15 computer-executable code configured to convert absolute coordinates to physical lengths using a width and height viewbox designation in the print output.

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7. A print driver according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-executable code configured to generate print output further comprises:

computer-executable code configured to embed image data within an element definition of the print output.

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8. A printer comprising:

computer-executable code configured to receive print output conforming to a standardized markup language; and

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computer-executable code configured to produce a print image using the print output.

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9. A printer according to Claim 8,
wherein the standardized markup language is a
scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

5 10. A method executable by a print driver
executing on a user's personal computer and
responsive to a selection of a print option from any
application program, the print driver comprising:

10 a receiving step to receive output from an
application program; and

a generating step to generate print output
from the application program output, the print
output conforming to a standardized markup language.

15 11. A method according to Claim 10,
wherein the standardized markup language is a
scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

20 12. A method according to Claim 10,
wherein the application program output is in the
form of Graphic Device Interface (GDI) commands.

25 13. A method according to Claim 10,
wherein the standardized markup language permits a
hierarchy of elements, wherein generating print
output further comprises:

30 tracking a state change associated with a
hierarchical level defined in the application
program output and determine when to include the
state change in the print output.

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14. A method according to Claim 10,
wherein generating print output further comprises:

storing at least one path element in the application program output and generating a corresponding path element in the print output when a paint path element is encountered in the application program output.

15. A method according to Claim 10,
10 wherein generating print output further comprises:

converting absolute coordinates to physical lengths using a width and height viewbox designation in the print output.

15 16. A method according to Claim 10,
wherein generating print output further comprises:
embedding image data within an element
definition of the print output.

20 17. A method executable by a printer
comprising:

receiving print output conforming to a
standardized markup language; and
producing a print image using the print
output.

18. A method according to Claim 17, wherein the standardized markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.

19. A computer-readable memory medium in
which computer-executable process steps are stored,
the process steps for execution by a print driver
and responsive to a selection of a print option from
5 an application program, the process steps
comprising:

a receiving step to receive output from an
application program; and

10 a generating step to generate print output
from the application program output, the print
output conforming to a standardized markup language.

20. A computer-readable memory medium
15 according to Claim 19, wherein the standardized
markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG)
language.

21. A computer-readable memory medium
20 according to Claim 19, wherein the application
program output is in the form of Graphic Device
Interface (GDI) commands.

22. A computer-readable memory medium
25 according to Claim 19, wherein the standardized
markup language permits a hierarchy of elements,
wherein the generating step to generate print output
further comprises:

30 a tracking step to track a state change
associated with a hierarchical level defined in the

application program output and determine when to include the state change in the print output.

5 23. A computer-readable memory medium according to Claim 19, wherein the generating step to generate print output further comprises:

10 a storing step to store at least one path element in the application program output and generating a corresponding path element in the print output when a paint path element is encountered in the application program output.

15 24. A computer-readable memory medium according to Claim 19, wherein the generating step to generate print output further comprises:

 a converting step to convert absolute coordinates to physical lengths using a width and height viewbox designation in the print output.

20 25. A computer-readable memory medium according to Claim 19, wherein the generating step to generate print output further comprises:

 an embedding step to embed image data within an element definition of the print output.

25 26. A computer-readable memory medium in which computer-executable process steps are stored, the process steps for execution by a printer, wherein the process steps comprise:

30 a receiving step to receive print output conforming to a standardized markup language; and

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a producing step to produce a print image using the print output.

27. A computer-readable memory medium according to Claim 26, wherein the standardized markup language is a scalable vector graphics (SVG) language.